

Irrigation Bibliography For Wasatch County, Utah and Utah

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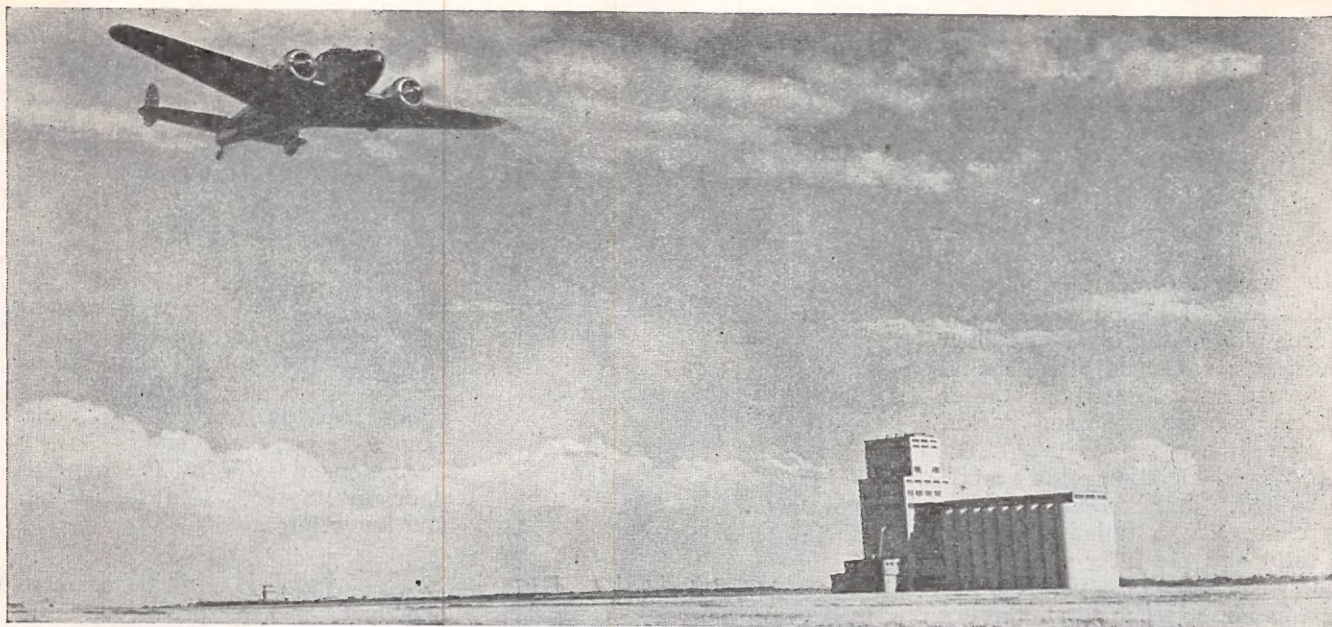
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WINGS OVER CANADA

Here the camera has caught the sweep of the Canadian plains, the graphic lines of a million-bushel grain elevator, and the flight of a mail plane, herald of a new day.

Photo by Dick Matthews, "Lethbridge Daily Herald."

colony in Canada at Cardston under the leadership of that great man of faith, Charles Ora Card.

The little colony of Latter-day Saints soon found there was no Church organization near, and so they invited President Edward J. Wood to visit them. The organization of the Rosemary Branch on December 6, 1920, was the sequel to that visit. There were seven families in the branch, Leonard O. Bramwell being the first branch president. The little community pioneered along in their new home for a time but soon many became discouraged, and eventually the Nortons were the only ones remaining. The others left, some returning to the United States.

"You stayed with the country right through," I remarked to the energetic bishop recently as we discussed the rise of Rosemary. The bishop owns one of the finest farms in the region and around him are his family, also prospering and contented.

"I did and I am glad of it. I liked the country and I saw a future for our people here if they would make the necessary sacrifices to get established. Then, I never forgot the promise made by the late Patriarch 'Uncle' Henry Hinman of Cardston, which was that if our people would stay and build permanent homes in the country, and keep the commandments of the Lord, they would raise crops in abundance. . . That promise, partially at least, has come to pass for those who remained. We have been blessed with

abundant harvests . . ." he said.

Years passed and Mormon families drifted back to Rosemary. The irrigation project changed hands, the railway company turning it over to the water users under a new arrangement that has worked out with marked success. Farmers saw \$50 land drop to from \$3.40 to \$10 an acre without interest, including water. This was raw land but land which would give rich returns with irrigation. Cereal crops, hay, roots, alfalfa seed, commercial peas and beans and other special crops made up the farmer's program and with this diversification he has been steadily "paying out." The change in policy and administration, coupled with the reduction in land and water rates, opened the door for a fresh influx of settlers, among these the Latter-day Saint families from the drouth districts.

This Mormon immigration was encouraged by the project manager, Mr. E. L. Gray, M. L. A., for he knew what the Latter-day Saints had done in other sections of Western America from the Lethbridge district's irrigation units, south

through the inter-mountain region into Arizona. Then, he is a personal friend of the president of the Lethbridge Stake, President Palmer, who is himself a technical agriculturist, graduate of the Utah State Agricultural College, and now assistant superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station at Lethbridge. A nationally recognized authority on western rehabilitation problems, President Palmer combined his scientific training and careful judgment with the practical skill and enthusiasm of Bishop Norton and the result was the establishment of 13 families on irrigated farms the first year.

They feel this to be a good start, for the progress made that first season has more than justified the effort. The settlers are making good. Said Bishop Norton: "Ninety-five percent of those placed on farms under the Church project have done well and are contented and thankful. It must be remembered that some moved on to improved farms, others

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WORK, WATER, AND SOIL!

Photo by W. J. Oliver, Calgary, Canada.

